

Briefing Note to Minister of Health

November 17, 2005

Update on Estrogen and Progesterone Receptor Testing

The estrogen and progesterone investigation and retesting to date is affecting 835 individuals. A total of 898 samples (there are instances where individuals have had more than one sample taken) have been logged and sent to Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto, Ontario.

In summary, activity to date is as follows:

Patients whose results have been reported by Mount Sinai but require review

These patients are being reviewed by a panel consisting of two medical oncologists, two pathologists, and two surgeons, with support from Quality Enhancement (QE).

Notification is by letter to the most responsible physician. Follow-up to ensure disclosure will be conducted in several weeks.

37	Patient status has changed but there are no treatment recommendations
22	Patient status has changed and there are treatment recommendations
2	Patient sample requires further testing
1	Patient sample has multiple results and will require follow-up
<u>21</u>	To be reviewed - These patients will be reviewed by the panel on Thursday, November 17, 2005
83	Total

Patients whose results have been reported by Mount Sinai and have been confirmed negative

41	Contacted by QE staff
3	No answer (after many tries)
44	Contacted by Physician
<u>1</u>	Other region
89	Total

Patients whose results have not been reported by Mount Sinai

178	Contacted
15	No answer
6	Unable to locate at this time (we are exploring ways to contact them)
<u>58</u>	Recently received samples - These samples have either been recently received from other regions of the Province and are now in Eastern Health or are from 2004/2005. The names, status and contact information are being confirmed with the Cancer Clinic prior to each patient being called.
257	Sub total
<u>227</u>	Other regions - Both Western and Central will be contacting their own patients. Ten (10) patients from Labrador will be contacted through Eastern.
484	Total

Overall these phone calls have gone quite well, with the individuals expecting to be contacted and understanding that the results may take a while. Several individuals wished that we hadn't called until we had results, but overall there were no strong emotional reactions either way. We are continuing to try to reach those 15, but it is difficult without being able to leave messages.

We have received over 60 calls from individuals affected by this issue, the majority being follow-up conversations for clarification after being contacted by our department.

Patients from St. Pierre

Total - 8 patients

Contact will be coordinated through Dr. Malluret

Long-term Care Residents

Total - 13 patients

Contact will be coordinated through the Medical Director of the previous SJNHB

Patients who are deceased:

Total - 158 patients

Arrangements will be made to notify family members once all results have been received. We have discovered that several have passed away upon making contact with family members.